

RUSSIAN PILGRIMS.

How Aged Peasants Attain Caste in Their Villages

They Travel Far Away to Pray at Distant Shrines and Monasteries

The Holy Places They Visit and at Which They Are Fed and Lodged

When the snows of winter melt in Russia and the woods are fragrant with violets and the ice in great masses floats down the rivers to the sea the peasant who is on the threshold of old age, tired of long inaction, comes forth from his izba and looks abroad. Strange thoughts have been stirring in him for several months, recollections of a vow that he once made that, if heaven willed, he would one day worship in a certain monastery and there venerate the relics of its saints. For many a long year it seemed as if this vow would never be fulfilled, for there was work to do in the village of which he could in no way rid himself, and still more pressing was the burden of a numerous family that could not be left. But now the children have grown up and can fend for themselves, and the father and mother are no longer of the same value to the community as laborers. Indeed were they to quit the village they would not be much missed. One way, however, remains for them to redeem their lost position and to entitle themselves for the rest of their lives to the respect of all their neighbors. It is to go on a far distant pilgrimage.

Innumerable are the sacred places in Russia and out of Russia which the pilgrims visit. On the sterile tundras that end in the lonely strand where the waves of the White sea find their foam upon the walls of the Solovetsky monastery; on the quays of Odessa, awaiting the steamer that will carry them to Jaffa, or on the monotonous straight roads that for verst upon verst lead by forests of white stemmed birch or somber pine to the resting place of St. Serge, near Moscow, or of the saints who sleep in the catacombs of Petchersk at Kiev, there may be seen bands of pilgrims, staff in hand, journeying on foot, through poverty or in accordance with a vow, to their far-off goal. The men often wear clumsy but comfortable shoes of plaited bark, stockings fastened round the leg with string, breeches reaching to the knees and wide, baggy, flowing coats attached to the waist with a colored belt. The women have a colored undershirt, a short dress and bodice all in one and a bright hued handkerchief wrapped round the head, a knapsack on the back and a gourd or kettle fastened to a girdle. But the costumes are very various, and it would be impossible to describe them all.

These pilgrims beg for money comparatively rarely. They have the self respect and independence which befit people presumably so pious. Perhaps they have saved for this pilgrimage for many years; they are hardly up to the last degree. At night they sleep where they can, in a monastery or perhaps in sheds that have been erected for them by the road, and when they wish to drink they stop and ask for water at a peasant's hut, where they are respectfully received. If they are short of bread the poor moujik will give them some, if he has any, for the charitable instinct of the people in Russia is inextinguishable. And perhaps, too, they will render some service to the homes that they visit. Tolstoi has described a pilgrim to the Holy Land who found a whole family dying of starvation and set them up again. And when Saturday arrives, and all good people are bound by their religion to take a bath, then men and women will plunge into the river regardless of the want of bathing machines and careless of all bathing regulations.

Glad, after this interminable march of many weeks, is the Russian pilgrim when he sees far off, flashing against the azure sky, the domes of the churches of the holy places where he is to worship, and especially is he glad if it be a town, like Kiev, that stands on a range of wooded hills, breaking the monotony of the endless plain. Singing a more joyous hymn, he approaches eagerly, for he knows that there are food and lodging assured him at his destination. At Jerusalem there is an immense convent hall, supported by the Russian government, which is well aware of what the pilgrims do to increase Russian influence and her reputation in the Holy Land. At Solovetsky there is a hotel with sloping counters that serve as a resting place. At the lavra of Petchersk, the oldest of the Russian monasteries, there has been a house for the poor since the eleventh century. Some of the pilgrims are accommodated in rooms that resemble well kept bayliffs, and each one has a locker, where he may sit during the day and sleep at night. There is a hospital there, too, with eighty beds, and a special wing for those whose ailments are not of a serious description. And for three days pilgrims are lodged and boarded free, and many are allowed to come and go just as they will.

COST OF TRAIN LUXURY.

The Reason That Railway Passenger Rates Are So High.

It may be asked why the railway locomotive does not pull passengers at a lower rate. Because it gives passengers so much room, comfort and high speed that it has to carry a ton of dead weight for each passenger. A locomotive weighing 100 tons pulls at 45 miles an hour 12 cars weighing 600 tons and containing 700 people weighing 50 tons, assuming the passengers to be men, women and children, but chiefly men, and to average 131 pounds each; 1,400 pounds of dead weight per passenger when every seat is taken. But cars cannot average more than seven-tenths full.

The railway carries free the passenger's 150 pound trunk and sends with him toilet rooms, heating stoves and fuel, smoking rooms, dining rooms and bedrooms. These houses on wheels and the locomotive which draws them have to be made very heavy in order to get the great strength made necessary by high speed.

If the railway could dispense with these comforts and luxuries and carry passengers packed closely inside and on top of low roofed, ramshackle, unheated vehicles like the old stage and at slow speed it could pull passengers at one-tenth to one-twentieth the price of the old stage.—Engineering Magazine.

Cures Kidney and Bladder Troubles, Deep Seated Cases, Aching Back, Mucous Discharges, Etc

For old, obstinate, deep-seated, Kidney, Bladder and Urinary diseases take a bottle of Botanic Kidney Specific. If you have agonizing pains in back, swollen legs or abdomen discharges from the urethra, neuralgia of the bladder, burning sensation or difficulty in passing water, also a frequent desire or even involuntary discharges of the urine, Catarrh of the bladder stone, Bright's disease, disagreeable odor of the urine, scanty and high colored, your kidneys and bladder are diseased. Take Botanic Kidney Specific. Soon all the symptoms disappear, discharges cease, aches in the back disappear. The burning sensation stops and a perfect cure is guaranteed.

Botanic Kidney Specific gives strength, power and health to the kidneys. Acts directly on the uric acid and dissolves and destroys it.

Plea not to the taste. Especially advised for chronic cases that resist all other treatment. \$1 per large bottle at my store or by express. Call or write A. R. Fisher, Cloverport, Ky.

North Pole For Bald Heads.

"Talking of hair restorers," said the captain of a steamer who has been a whaler, "none of them is in it with the air of the arctic regions. A man with thin hair who fails to get a new crop if he goes within the arctic circle is a hopeless case. I have seen whalers who got bald when they stayed at home for a year or two and got a new crop of hair every time they went toward the north pole on a whaling expedition."

"How do I account for it? The farther you go north the land animals get shaggier. It is a provision against the cold. When the arctic winter approaches, the reindeer, the bears and other animals get a thicker coat of hair or fur. Similarly the hair on the human head thickens when you go far north."

"It is a fact. Now, I don't want you to think that once the follicles of the hair are dead new hair always comes, even in northern regions. Sometimes when a man is apparently as bald as a billiard ball, the follicles are not dead, and there is hope for him."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Save the Children.

Ninety-nine of every one hundred diseases that children have are due to disorders of the stomach, and these disorders are all caused by indigestion. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure is just as good for children as it is for adults. Children thrive on it. It keeps the little stomach sweet and encourages the growth and development. Mr. Henry Carter, 705 Central St., Nashville, Tenn., says: "My little boy is now three years old and has been suffering from indigestion ever since he was born. I have had the best doctors in Nashville, but failed to do him any good. After using one bottle of Kodol he is a well baby. I recommend it to all sufferers." Kodol digests what you eat and makes the stomach sweet. Sold by All Druggists.

A Startling Request.

Percy is a little boy who makes plans to shirk his bath sometimes. But the other evening he came in from play tired and hot and sticky.

"Do I get a bath tonight, ma?" he asked.

"Yes," answered his mother.

"Well," he said cheerfully, "the Lord knows I need it."—Brooklyn Eagle.

A Revived Topic of Discussion.

"It looks as if we were in for another Napoleonic revival."

"What makes you think so?"

"I understand the Lime and Plaster club has revived the old debating question. 'Resolved, Dat Bonaparte an a greater man dan Napoleon.'"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Kept Asunder.

Tom—Have Maud and Ethel quarreled? I don't see them together lately.

Dolly—No, they haven't quarreled; but Maud's new gown is lavender and Ethel's new gown is blue.—Somerville Journal.

Some Formal Correspondence.

A matter of fact sacristan of the Cathedral of Berlin wrote the king of Prussia this brief note:

Sire—I acquaint your majesty, first, that there are wanting books of psalms for the royal family. I acquaint your majesty, second, that there wants wood to warm the royal seats. I acquaint your majesty, third, that the balustrade next the river, behind the church, is become ruinous.

SCHMIDT, Sacrist of the Cathedral.

The reply of the king was not that of a "gracious majesty." Its stiff formality in imitating the style of the sacristan probably was not taken by the receiver as complimentary to him:

I acquaint you, Herr Sacrist Schmidt, first, that those who want to sing may buy books. Second, I acquaint Herr Sacrist Schmidt that those who want to be warm must buy wood. Third, I acquaint Herr Sacrist Schmidt that I shall not trust any longer to the balustrade next the river. And I acquaint Herr Sacrist Schmidt, fourth, that I will not have any more correspondence with him.

FREDERICK.

Absent Minded Lord Derby.

Lord Derby could be very absent minded, and once on a time he walked with Lord Clarendon, his opponent, and told him all the secrets of the cabinet. Lord Clarendon listened amazed, but thought it too large an order when he was asked for his advice. It was not for him to counsel his political foes. At this intimation Lord Derby woke up, saying, "Really, I thought all the time I was talking to a colleague!" He had continued, hardly recognizing the fact, a controversy he had been having with other ministers at the foreign office. Of course Lord Clarendon honorably preserved the cabinet secrets, but he told his story against Lord Derby and made a laugh.

His Mistake.

Gushington—I wonder what's the matter with Starr, the tragedian. He never notices me any more.

Crittick—Didn't I hear you tell him his style was very much like Booth's?

Gushington—Yes. But surely—Crittick—That's where you made your mistake. You should have said Booth's style was like his.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Quite Fast.

First Girl—Those stockings are a lovely color. Are they fast?

Second Girl—If you had seen me yesterday when I met a cow you would not have asked that question.—Houston Post.

"Some men," said Uncle Eben, "will put in weeks prayin' foh rain an' den kick cos dey happens to git deir feet wet."—Washington Star.

Suicide Prevented.

The startling announcement that a preventive of suicide had been discovered will interest many. A run down system, or despondency invariably precedes suicide and something has been found that will prevent that condition which makes suicide likely. At the first thought of self-destruction take Electric Bitters. It being a great tonic and nerve will strengthen the nerves and build up the system. It's also a great Stomach and Liver and Kidney regulator. Only 50c. Satisfaction guaranteed by Short & Haynes, druggists.

Lang's Literary Output.

Andrew Lang held at one time what must have been very nearly a world's record in literary output. His regular weekly work was six leaders for a morning newspaper, two humorous sketches for an evening journal, two long articles, two book reviews and a contribution to a weekly illustrated paper. In addition to this he devoted four hours every day to what may be called pure literature. He turned out books at the rate of three a year or even more. In 1890, for instance, there appeared from his pen the "Red Fairy Tale Book," "Life, Letters and Diaries of Sir Stafford Northcote," "How to Fail in Literature" and "Old Friends." For weeks together his work would average 25,000 words a week.

CASTORIA.

The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of

A Quaint Old Will.

"My hobby is the collection of strange wills," said a retired sea captain. "I have gathered together copies of over fifty old testaments, and fine reading some of them are. One, over 300 years old, bequeaths—what do you think? Why, it bequeaths its maker's soul to God. This is the way it reads: 'In Dei nomine, Amen; the yere of our Lord 1541, the XXXth day of May, I, Robert Pettigrew, hole of mynd and mem'ry, make my testament and last will, yn forme and manner following: First, I bequeeth my soule to Almighty God, and my body to be buryd yn the churchyard of North Cadbury. I bequeeth to my sonne Richard a cowe, a calff, the second best grass panne, II platters, II dysshyss of pewter, and an akar of wheat, an akar of drage, and an akar of medow. To my daughter Alys, a cowe. To my sonne Thomas, my old oxe. The residue of my goods, not bequeathed, I give to Mawde, my Wyffe.'"—Philadelphia Record.

Mrs. Mollie Allen, of South Fork, Ky., says she has prevented attacks of cholera morbus by taking Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablet when she felt an attack coming on. Such attacks are usually caused by indigestion and these Tablets are just what is needed to cleanse the stomach and ward off the approaching attack. Attacks of bilious colic may be prevented in the same way. For sale by Short & Haynes.



A Charming New York Woman's Experience.

Miss Rohrbach, who lives at No. 73 Amsterdam Avenue, New York City, and is Treasurer of the Woman's Progressive Union, wrote the following story of her experience:

I am satisfied that half the doctors do not know what really ails their patients, while you have carefully studied the needs of the sick and worn-out, and have skillfully prepared a reliable remedy which will cure in a short time. Two years ago I began to feel "run-down," the extreme heat of the summer nearly prostrated me, and when fall came I was ill prepared to take up anew the burdens of life. I had headache, backache and was very nervous; scarcely able to sleep more than two hours at a time. I was advised to try Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, and was delighted with the result. Within a week I was sleeping splendidly. Continued using the "Favorite Prescription" for eight weeks, and then stopped, for I was perfectly well. Ever since then your medicine has been my "Favorite Prescription," too. I recommend it to every one. Yours very truly, Miss May Rohrbach. To Dr. R. V. Pierce.

Miss Nannie E. Kyle, of Volant, Lawrence Co., Pa., had a somewhat different experience from Miss Rohrbach, but with the same result as has been the case with thousands of women before.

Please accept my thanks for the good your "Favorite Prescription" did me, also for the advice sent. I had been suffering for some time from pain at stated periods and impaired general health, when I noticed your advertisement in one of our papers. I decided to write you for advice. Received a kind reply telling me just what medicine to take, and giving other advice which was very valuable, and which, I am sure, assisted much in the cure. I purchased "Favorite Prescription" and soon felt much better, so of course continued its use for some time. I would advise every woman in poor health to write to Dr. Pierce for advice, as he will take an interest in every case submitted to him, and will send a kind letter in reply.

Respectfully yours, Miss Nannie E. Kyle. To Dr. R. V. Pierce.

The diseases which weaken and torment women, may in almost all cases be cured by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It establishes regularity, dries weakening drains, heals inflammation and ulceration, and cures female weakness. "Favorite Prescription" makes weak women strong, sick women well. Ac-

cept no substitute for the medicine which works wonders for weak women. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets should be used with "Favorite Prescription" whenever a laxative is required.

Chas. Boykin, of Acme, La., Concordia Parish, speaking of his wife's experience, says:

I write you thanking you for the benefit of your wonderful "Favorite Prescription," and also the "Golden Medical Discovery." I find that your remedies have done more good than all the others that I have used. I thought my wife would die at times; not only able to say that through you and your medicine we have a fine boy two months old. Weight three days after birth, 18 lbs. It is a wonder to the people to see my wife going about with a baby. She is able to do her own housework, can walk six miles with baby without stopping and feels as though she could stand all day; so healthy, she can eat anything. Before using your medicine my wife's weight was 122 lbs., and now she is weighing 175 lbs. She only used 12 bottles of your medicine. My mother-in-law, also my sister, have been cured entirely of uterine trouble by your "Favorite Prescription."

Yours respectfully, C. Chas. Boykin. To Dr. R. V. Pierce.

The first experience of maternity is often followed by a quick convalescence which gives no hint of loss of strength as the result of the trying ordeal. Youth with its undrained vitality makes for the young mothers' health and happiness. But later maternal experiences bring a different result. The care of a family, multiplied household duties, and very often weakness caused by womanly disease, tend to prolong the suffering of maternity and to make convalescence a slow and weary process.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription prepares the wife for maternity. It promotes the appetite, cures nervousness and sleeplessness, and gives a consciousness of buoyant health. It gives great muscular strength and elasticity and makes the baby's advent practically painless. It is unexcelled as a strengthening tonic for mothers during the period of convalescence. Weak and sick women are invited to consult Dr. Pierce by letter, free. All correspondence is held as strictly private and sacredly confidential. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y. "Favorite Prescription" makes weak women strong, sick women well. Accept no substitute for the medicine which works wonders for weak women. This "Prescription" of Dr. Pierce's is purely vegetable and will not harm the most delicate system. It is guaranteed to contain no alcohol, no narcotics of any kind.

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